First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti

"Follow Me"

Artist Unknown image displayed at http://shelleysdavies.com/water/

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here.

January 25, 2015 10:00 am

Third Sunday after Epiphany

An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP & LIFE TOGETHER: We invite you to participate in this community of faith. If you are a visitor for the first time, please fill out the welcome pad being passed around. We invite you to join us for Friendship Time (refreshments and conversation) at the conclusion of worship.

WE WELCOME CHILDREN so that they may come to understand the worship experience. Families are encouraged to talk about the parts of worship so children may understand and participate. During the worship service we have a time for children with the minister on the rug in the center of the worship space followed by Sunday school (September-May).

Hymns are found in the following books:
NCH *(Black, hardcover "New Century Hymnal")*
Sing! *(Black, softcover, "Sing! Prayer and Praise" songbook)*
ES *(Green, softcover "Everflowing Streams" songbook)*

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Invitation

All people are welcome to participate in this community of faith
If you have questions about becoming a member of this church, please speak with the Pastor or any member of the Community.

Prelude — Steve McGhee

*Gathering Hymn — "Sing a Different Song" — 150 NCH - Steve McGhee

Welcome — Tad Wysor

Guests, please complete a Visitor Card and place in the offering plate so we may have a record of your visit.
We hope you will join us for Friendship Time and refreshments after the service.

Thank you for worshiping with us today!

**Please rise in body or spirit as you are able*

Announcements — Tad Wysor

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Ringing the Bell

*Hymn — "We Shall Not Give Up The Fight" — 431 NCH

Focusing Prayer (Unison) — Tad Wysor

God you are in all places and times. We await your message. Sometimes we do not like what we hear. However, your message is inclusive and fair, while we make distinctions that favor us or our friends. You call us out of our comfort zones to do new things and try better ways. You direct us to reach out to people with whom we seem to have little in common. Speak your truth to us in this service so we can carry it to the places you want us to go and to share with peoples you are eager to reach. Amen.

Anthem — "Be Not Afraid" — FCC Choir

LISTENING FOR GOD

Old Testament Reading — Jonah 3:1-5, 10 — Tad Wysor

Hymn — "Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child" — 136 NCH

Children's Time — *children are invited to come forward* — Marcia Meabon

New Testament Reading — Mark 1:14-20 — Tad Wysor

Reflection — "'Called to fish" — Marcia Meabon

*Hymn — "You Walk Along Our Shoreline" — 504 NCH

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

Prayers of the People — Marcia Meabon

All are invited to offer a prayer, testimony, praise report or prayer request at this time. Please limit your sharing to one or two sentences and remember confidentiality issues.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Unison) -- Alternate version — Marcia Meabon

When we say the Lord's Prayer, please feel free to follow the traditional form or use language that feels comfortable to you, e.g. Mother, Creator, God, Friend, or Realm, Kindom, Wisdom.

Offering this prayer in unison brings us together and the words illustrate our common journey

Breath of Life,
In whom we live and move and have our being,
Your presence fills all of Creation.
May justice and mercy reign,
In our lives and in our world.
Today may our bellies be full,
Our hearts warm,
And our fellowship open.
May we reconcile with the people we've hurt,
Just as we reconcile with the people who've hurt us.
Lead us not into a time of trial,
But deliver us from evil.
For wherever grace and community abide,
There you are with us;
We are not alone.
Blessed be.

– by Chance Hunter (Used under Creative Commons license)
http://www.timesandseasons.net/2011/the-lords-prayer-an-alternate-version

*Hymn "Tu has venido a la orilla (You Have Come down to the Lakeshore)" 173 NCH

RESPONDING TO OUR CALLING

Invitation to the Offering (Unison) Tad Wysor

When our riches increase, we are tempted to put our trust and confidence in those riches. But riches are not meant to satisfy us. They are placed in our hands that we might accomplish some good purpose. Giving through the church grants us that opportunity. Amen.

Offertory Steve McGhee

*Doxology "Take My Gifts" 562 NCH

Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,
Gave me light and food and shelter, Gave me life and set me free,
Now because your love has touched me, I have love to give away,
Now the bread of love is rising, Loaves of love to multiply!

*Prayer of Dedication *(Unison)* Tad Wysor

God of steadfast love, we pray that you will love the world through the moneys we dedicate today. We pray that your work of transformation will be carried forward by our gifts. As a church, we seek to follow where Jesus leads. As individuals, we heed the call to discipleship. Bless our efforts to fish for people – for their sakes, not ours. Amen.

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

*Hymn of Departure "Jesus Calls Us O'er Our Tumult" 172 NCH

*Benediction Marcia Meabon

One: There are many we know whom Jesus is seeking.
Many: It is often difficult to share our faith with our friends,
We hear the call, and we intend to invite them.
One: Jesus promised, "You will see greater things than I have shown you."
We are Christ's messengers today and every day!
Many: The works of our God are wonderful and should be shared,
Christ is our mentor, our Savior, our friend. Amen.

Postlude Steve McGhee

(Please be seated for the Postlude)

Passing the Peace *Share a greeting with your neighbor as we transition to our snack.*

First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413
218 North Adams Street
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198
734-482-6980
website: ***www.ypsiucc.com***

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God is still speaking,
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Our Volunteers	Today: January 25th	Next Sunday: Feb 1st
Usher	Orin Brustad	Marty Kleino
Preaching	Marcia Meabon	Carol Hall
Worship Leader	Tad Wysor	Wayne Burling
Worship Set-up	Donna Eyster	Margaret Harner
Acolyte	Hunter/Desayre	Hunter Turner
Friendship Time	Barbara Garland & Margaret Harner	Anne Marie N-T
Sunday School	Anne Marie N-T	Melanie Harner

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL MEETING OF FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC: The Annual Meeting has been postponed and will happen on March 22, 2015 after the service.

CHOIR REHEARSALS: Choir rehearsal this week will be Tuesday at 6:30 PM Come, join the fun and try it out. We have a great time. Don't need to read music or have trained voice.

PASTORAL CARE EMERGENCIES: If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Glenda Horvath, 734-904-0420

CONGREGATIONAL CARE: Kindly remember in your prayers our members and friends who are sick and/or shut-in. Send a card or note to lift their spirits and yours as well.

Fran Pebbles' address: *American Homes Carpenter, 3470 Carpenter Rd., Apt 332, Ypsilanti, MI 48197. Phone: 734-975-0987*

Sally Dusbiber's address': *Silver Maples of Chelsea, Room 1211, 100 Silver Maples Dr., Chelsea, MI 48118. Sally's direct phone line is 734-433-2396 and the Silver Maples line is 734-475-4111, x217.*

IMMIGRATION MINISTRY (WICIR): For information about what's happening with Immigrant Rights and *Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights*, or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Margaret Harner at 734-483-3464 or through their Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/WICIR .

MICHIGAN OPEN & AFFIRMING COALITION: For information about what's happening with Michigan Open and Affirming Coalition, or if you are interested in joining us, please contact Wayne Burling at 734-377-0696. More information can be found on their website http://www.mi-ona.org or on facebook at https://www.facebook.com/groups/onami/

WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION: "First Congregational is a co-founding institution of the new local "organization of organizations" WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition). In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. The diverse faith congregations and labor and community organizations that make up WeROC are, at our core, focused on intentionally reweaving the frayed fabric of community -- at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated and on our own. We are showing by example that people from many backgrounds and perspectives can, even today, come together in powerful ways around our common values and *actually change* unjust public policies. WeROC is a part of the S.E. Michigan organization MOSES and the national Gamaliel Foundation.
See Tad Wysor (tadwysor@gmail.com, 734 883 3225) for more on how First Congregational is connecting with current WeROC issues and actions.

OUR WEBSITE: http://www.ypsiucc.org Let Wayne know if you have any additional items to be added. He could use lots more pictures. Also check out and like our Facebook page. https://www.facebook.com/pages/First-Congregational-United-Church-of-Christ-Ypsilanti/115695119913 .

KROGER FUNDRAISER: HAVE YOU *RE-REGISTERED* WITH KROGER!! Everybody that shops at Kroger and has a shopper's card *MUST* register. *Last Year's registration expired May 1st* and you are not getting credit for you purchases until you re-register for the current year.

Go to www.kroger.com and click "REGISTER". Follow prompts to register your frequent shopper card number. Then link to the Community Rewards site and register with our church. Our number is 83263, or you can find our name in drop down list. Any questions contact Barbara Garland, bargarland@yahoo.com, 734-662-5803.